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Collateral Murder

Timeline of events

Engagement

All times are presented in Zulu time (UTC), which is used by the military and can be seen on the top left corner of the video. Baghdad local time at the time of the incident was UTC+4. Military documents state that events start at 09:50, which is approximately 28 minutes before the video starts.

06:50:00	1/8 CAV moves in to assist 2/6 after a report of Small Arms Fire (SAF) in the area. They fail to positively identify (PID) the attacker.
06:18:40	Crazyhorse [lead helicopter] notices a group of people on an open plaza.
06:20:05	Crazyhorse: "Have five to six individuals with AK47s. Request permission to engage."
06:21:09	First shots fired at the group.
06:21:41	Helicopters cease fire.
06:22:02	Helicopters notice that Saeed is injured and is crawling.
06:24:54	Crazyhorse: "Come on, buddy. All you gotta do is pick up a weapon."
06:25:26	Helicopters notice a mini-van arriving, attempting to help Saeed.
06:25:58	Crazyhorse: "Roger. Break. Uh Crazyhorse One-Eight request permission to uh engage."
06:26:29	Bushmaster gives permission to engage. Proceed to open fire on the mini-van.
06:27:27	Helicopters cease fire.
06:31:53	Bradley armored vehicle arrives on the scene, followed by ground personnel.
06:33:12	They discover two wounded children in the van.
06:35:14	Ground unit reports: "I've got uh eleven Iraqi KIAs [Killed In Action]. One small child wounded. Over." - "Roger. Ah damn. Oh well."
06:36:05	"Well it's their fault for bringing their kids into a battle."
06:36:45	Humvee drives over Namir's body.
06:43:06	Bradley armored vehicle drives over a second body.
06:49:09	Video cuts.
07:20:42	Helicopter reports that 6 individuals have entered a building. It appears to be either under construction or an abandoned construction site.
07:21:40	"This is Bushmaster Six Romeo. Crazyhorse One Eight is going to be engaging north to south with Hellfire missiles over."
07:23:39	Hellfire missile is fired. "Target hit."
07:25:27	"There it goes! Look at that bitch go!"
07:26:42	"Roger, building destroyed. Engaged with three hellfire missiles."

Responses

July 12th, 2007 New York Times reports that two Iraqi journalists were killed in a militia clash with U.S. forces - "There is no question that coalition forces were clearly engaged in combat operations against a hostile force," said Lt. Col. Scott Bleichwehl, a spokesman for the multinational forces in Baghdad.

July 13th, 2007 Press statement from public affairs office in camp Victory reports on the event. There is no question that Coalition Forces were clearly engaged in combat operations against a hostile force, said Lt. Col Scott Bleichwehl, spokesperson and public affairs officer for MND-B.

July 13th, 2007 Reuters blog posts an entry on the killings of Namir Noor-Eldeen and Saeed Chmagh. Namir was the 109th journalist to be killed in Iraq since the invasion in 2003, and Saeed the 40th member of support staff.

July 16th, 2007 Reuters seeks U.S. probe into the killings of their staff. Our preliminary investigation raises real questions about whether there was fighting at the time the two men were killed, said David Schlesinger, editor-in-chief of Reuters. Specifically, Reuters wanted an explanation of why the two cameras were confiscated, access to any cameras onboard the Apache helicopters that were involved in the incident, access to any voice communications between the helicopter crews and U.S. ground forces and access to reports from the unit involved in the incident, in particular a log of any weapons taken from the scene.

July 16th, 2007Counterpunch reports that The US military says US and Iraqi forces engaged "a hostile force" and, after coming under fire, called for air support that killed nine insurgents and two civilians. The police and witnesses tell a different story. A preliminary police report from al-Rashad police station said Mr Noor-Eldeen and Mr Chmagh were killed along with nine others by a "random American bombardment." One witness, Karim Shindakh, said: "The aircraft began striking randomly and people were wounded. A Kia [mini-van] arrived to take them away. They hit the Kia and killed ... the two

journalists.

March 2008 Reuters opens website Bearing Witness dedicated to the memory of the Reuters journalists that have been killed in Iraq during the war: Taras Protsyuk (2003); Mazen Dana (2003); Dhia Najim (2003); Waleed Khaled (2005); Saeed Chmagh (2007); Namir Noor-Eldeen (2007); and an anonymous Reuters journalist who was killed in 2007.

July 15th, 2008 Reuters posts memorial article. In it they mention that "Reuters News is seeking video footage from the U.S. military and other materials relating to the killing of Noor-Eldeen and Chmagh. The footage was taken by cameras on board the U.S. helicopters involved in the incident, in which nine other people were killed. The U.S. military said last week it is still processing the request"

April 5th, 2010 WikiLeaks releases video footage from Apache helicopter.